ultimate irrigation potential of 1,05,700 hectares spilled over into VIII Plan and an outlay of Rs. 129.27 crores has been made for them in the VIII Plan. Remaining six projects with an ultimate irrigation potential of 32,200 hectares are new projects for which no provision exists in the VIII Plan.

Grant for Irrigation Schemes to States

3000. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government propose to enhance grant for irrigation schemes to all the States: and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Central assistance to State is provided in the outlays for States plan as a whole and not separately for a sector like irrigation, except in respect of certain projects such as Sutlaj-Yamuna Link Canal works. Therefore, the question of enhancing grants for irrigation does not arise. However, grants for the construction of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project under the Border Areas Development Programme for the year 1992-93 have been increased by Rs. 10 crores.

Formulation of the Proposal for the VIIIth Five Year Plan

3001. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting with representatives of all States to identify the newly emerging concerns and expectations of the Ministry for formulating the proposals of the VIIIth Plan was held in August, 1991;

(b) if so, the names of the States who represented in the said meeting;

(c) whether the said meeting was also attended by the representatives of Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, details of suggestions received from Uttar Pradesh in the meeting;

(e) whether Government have taken any action on these suggestions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a series of State/Union Territory-wise meetings with the Members of Parliament were held in August and September, 1991 to ascertain their views for the development of water resources in their respective States. All the States and Union Territories were represented in the said meetings. The meeting with the Members of Parliament of Uttar Pradesh was held on 5th September, 1991.

(d) to (f) The suggestions received from the Members of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh were mostly for expeditions clearance of pending water resources projects, construction and modernisation of States public tubewells, allocation of adequate funds for development of irrigation in their respective constituencies. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have been requested to evolve appropriate mechanisms for early clearance of projects from forest and environment angles.

Constitution of Central Ground Water Board

3002. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Ground Water Board has been constituted;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of this Board;